



April 2009

Around The Corner

The U.S. Consulate General in Amsterdam's Newsletter



At Your Service

Dutch American Friendship Day, April 19

Every year, on or around April 19, the Dutch-American Community in the Netherlands celebrates the bilateral relations between the Netherlands and the United States with Dutch-American Friendship Day. This day remembers and celebrates the day that John Adams, the second president of the United States, was received by the States General in the Hague and recognized as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America. It was also on this day that the house he had purchased at the Fluwelen Burgwal 18 in The Hague was to become the first United States Embassy in the world.

The Amsterdam American Business Club (AABC) will be celebrating its annual Dutch American Friendship Event on April 23, 2009 at the Movenpick Hotel City Center. Mayor Job Cohen is the keynote speaker. For more information please visit the AABC website at: www.aabc.nl.



New York Nights Is Here

We told you about it in our news letter and now it's here—don't miss it!

"New York Nights" is a week long celebration in Amsterdam. From April 1 - 6, exactly 400 years after Henry Hudson set sail for New York, the city will host a wide variety of events. The festivities will feature debates, lectures, and a town hall meeting with Russell Shorto and Geert Mak. Also, the New Amsterdam Trail in Amsterdam will launch and clubs and hot spots will have one single theme: New York.

Within the scope of the festivities around New York's 400th anniversary and Dutch-American relations, the City of Amsterdam will celebrate the occasion by hosting various activities and events in early April, exactly 400 years after Henry Hudson set sail for New York. Locals, New Yorkers and Americans living in the Netherlands, will celebrate the joint heritage and similarities between the two cities, countries, and peoples.

1-3 April; Pioneers!

Bringing together innovative thinkers at the frontiers of active citizenship in Amsterdam and New York, The Pioneers Sessions will celebrate the common values of creativity, diversity, and entrepreneurship in Amsterdam and New York City. It will celebrate the two cities' shared history of urban greatness that began 400 years ago with the journey of the Dutch ship "Halve Maen," commanded by Captain Henry Hudson across the Atlantic in 1609. The sessions will bring together a group of selected Pioneers—today's cut

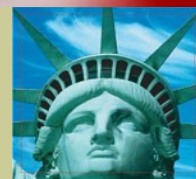




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ting edge thinkers and entrepreneurs from a variety of professional fields—for a transatlantic dialogue into the frontiers of civic engagement and social entrepreneurship in Amsterdam and New York City. Participants will be young professionals drawn from a broad range of fields including academia, the arts, business, health, education, government, grassroots activism, media and technology. Pioneers will gain knowledge and inspiration from exploring how innovative thinkers from different cities and disciplines are meeting the challenges of urban, social, and civic engagement.

The Pioneers Sessions will explore several key questions, rooted in the unique histories of both cities: What are the specific qualities of urban life in Amsterdam and New York City that create the conditions in which today's Pioneers thrive? How do aspects of history, politics, social traditions, cultural heritage, diversity, and demography in Amsterdam and New York City provide both the tensions and inspirations for civic engagement in multicultural cities? In which ways do global forces, technological change, economic recession, migration patterns, religious expression, and increasing diversity present challenges, and opportunities that today's Pioneers can act upon at the local level?

April; New York Classics (Kriterion)

Movie theater Kriterion will feature New York Classics which are masterpieces of the history of film. These motion pictures range from old blockbusters to excellent though perhaps not widely known films. Some titles have a high show off character while others are true cinematic gems.

Bob Mintzer: "The New Generation Big Band is exactly that. A new crop of great players who are taking the big band as an instrument to the next level. The band has a distinctive sound that reflects what is happening now. Keep your eyes and ears on this band."

Friday, 3 April; Museum Night: Open doors at the Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House and Amsterdam Historical Museum; Foam presents "Richard Avedon,"; and Starry Nights at Van Gogh Museum

As part of the New York Nights Weekend, Amsterdam's front-rank museums Van Gogh Museum, Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House, and the Amsterdam Historic Museum will open their doors to the public on Friday night with a special exhibition next to Rembrandt's famous "Night Watch." Among others, The Van Gogh Museum will exhibit in cooperation with MOMA "Van Gogh and the colours of the night" and the Rijksmuseum will show a precious collection of the founding documents of New Netherlands. Foam Photography Museum Amsterdam will host a large retrospective of the American photographer Richard Avedon.

Friday 3 April; Young Professionals event (+/- 200 persons) (Heineken Experience Hall)

The AmCham Young Professionals Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands will organize a special event with guest speakers Russell Shorto, co-author of *1609, The forgotten history of Hudson, Amsterdam and New York* and Frans van der Minne, Group HR Director of Heineken and former CEO of Heineken USA. These quality speakers will give a lecture followed by an interactive discussion focused on the historical, sociological, and entrepreneurial aspects of the US-NL longstanding relations. The evening will be concluded with a traditional Dutch *Stamppotten* buffet style dinner and drinks at the private floor of the Heineken Experience.



Saturday, 4 April; Town Hall Meeting starring Russell Shorto and Geert Mak (Westerkerk)

The weekend will commence with a Town Hall Meeting focussed on the shared DNA of Amsterdam/The Netherlands and the City of New York. The subject of discussion will not only be the influence of The Netherlands on the United States in

the 17th century, but also will take the dialogue further to critically examine the character and significance of the Dutch-US relations in the 21st century. U.S. Consul General Marjorie Ames will also deliver brief remarks.

Saturday, 4 April; Topscore XXXSperience (Special Dance Edition Club Escape)

During a big street dance competition boys and girls ages 12 through 18 years will have the opportunity to perform and show off their talents. Several dance styles will be portrayed. The jury will consist of New York dancers, who will also perform, and well-known Dutch dancers and choreographers (e.g. Timor and Eszteca of the Dutch television program "So you think you can dance?"). First prize for the street dance contest will be a trip to New York and participation in the Talent Swap complete with master classes, performances, and tours. Alderman Mrs. Gehrels will award the prizes. There will be several talent scouts in the audience searching for models, extras, singers, dancers, and youth with beat-boxing, and presentation skills. There will be beauty workshops, a game corner, shows by DJ KID, and DJ Abstract, and the entire evening will be hosted by Big Ed.

Saturday, 4 April; AMS-NYC Club Night

The most prominent clubs of Amsterdam will organize an American Club Night where New York and New Yorkers will predominate.

Sunday, 5 April; Henry Hudson for Kids (Schuttersgallerij, Amsterdams Historisch Musuem)

The Amsterdams Historisch Museum and the Henry Hudson 400 Foundation invite you to participate in a special family program to learn more about Henry Hudson, Amsterdam and New York on Sunday, April 5th.

The day starts with exciting stories in the "Schuttersgallerij," a surprise tour inside and outside the museum, and other fun activities for children ages ten and up. The City's storyteller will describe life in the 17th century, the thrilling voyage of Captain Hudson and his crew, as well as the spectacular discovery of Manhattan. Under the supervision of museum instructors and guides, children can walk the Henry Hudson for Kids Tour.

There will be two tours at 11:30 a.m. (in English) and 1:30 p.m. (in Dutch).

Entrance is free. Please send an e-mail for registration to events@ahm.nl.

In the afternoon—at 3:00 p.m.—the Henry Hudson audio tour will be launched. Bike through old Amsterdam along the historic places that played a major role in Dutch-American history. Join U.S. Consul General Marjorie Ames and others at this premiere. The bike tour is free. Please reserve your spot by sending an e-mail to events@ahm.nl.



Sunday, 5 April; Pioneers! Public event (+/- 650 persons) (Felix Meritis)

An entertaining and diverse program with talk shows, performances, workshops, enabling you to share in the inspiration and possibilities to bring about change with the Pioneers from various walks of life. They will take you to the crossroads of technology and democracy, art and politics, power and music, where new forms of citizenship are forged. Recognized and up-and-coming talents from New York and Amsterdam will present their visions and themes.

The program will include lectures by Roger Cohen (*The New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*), Jeff Johnson (*Black Entertainment Television*) and Andrew Rasiej (*Personal Democracy Forum*, *techPresident*), a talk show with Pioneers from New York and Amsterdam, Amsterdam & New York City Trend Watching workshop, Mission Possible In New York, The Happy City by Partizan Publik, Streetlab workshop: styling tips from Amsterdam for New York, Young Amsterdam Hip Hop on Stage with M.O. & Brakko and Zwart Licht, Boom Chicago, and more!

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Monday, 6 April; Urban Health Care "A Public Health Tale of Two Cities" (De Duif)

During this conference on urban health care, best practices will be exchanged. An important theme is how both the cities of Amsterdam and New York look at the marginalized parts of their population like psychiatric patients, drug addicts, and homeless people. But other questions will be addressed such as: What is the role of government?, What are the risks of big cities?, How to deal with hard drug addiction?, and What are the characteristics of vulnerable groups? Part two of the conference will be held on September 10th in New York.

Tuesday, 7 April Amsterdam-New York Evening (Oude Kerk)

The Oude Kerk Foundation of Amsterdam will organize a festive evening where "Amsterdammers and New Yorkers" can meet and celebrate the early beginnings of New York and the centuries-long bond with Amsterdam. Onno Ruding, former Minister of Finance of The Netherlands during two cabinets, will give a lecture entitled: "USA and Europe: Different Values and Behavior in Finance?" The evening will be musically enlightened by the String quartet formation of "The Hague String Variations."

Dutch and U.S. Will Sign Treaty to Expedite Travel for Select Travelers from both Nations on April 23, 2009

In May of 2008, U.S. Customs and Border Protection signed a statement of intent with the government of The Netherlands to develop a process to integrate CBP's Global Entry Program with the Dutch Privium program, to facilitate travel of Dutch and U.S. citizens between the two countries. On April 23, both nations will sign a treaty that will solidify this agreement. This means that Dutch members already enrolled in the Privium program will be able to join the Global Entry program and U.S. Citizens will be able to join Privium.

To join Global Entry, this is the link: <https://goes-app.cbp.dhs.gov/>.

20 Major airports will be participants in the program; most airports served from Schiphol are included. Applications and interviews for Global Entry will be available at Schiphol starting April 23, 2009.



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

THE AMERICAN BOOK CENTER AND U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL PRESENT A LECTURE SERIES :

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2009,
1830 (6:30 P.M.)

400 Years of Shared Dutch American History. Where Do We Go From Here?

This is the first in a series of discussion evenings, each featuring a different topic emerging from Dutch and American shared values. It will be led by a diplomat from the U.S. Consulate General and moderated by Donna DuCarme, manager of the American Book Center's cultural venue, the ABC Treehouse.

On Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 1830 hrs (6:30 p.m.), Consul General Marjorie Ames will introduce the topic of the history and values Dutch and Americans share. The evening begins with a cocktail half-hour (bring a drink or snack to share) followed by the speaker's brief remarks and audience discussion and will end by 2030 hrs (8:30 p.m.).

All evenings will be held at the **ABC Treehouse**, Voetboogstraat 11, Amsterdam
(just across the square from the American Book Center).

Seating is limited, reservations can be made via:

<http://www.treehouse.abc.nl/index.php?page=details&itemid=885>

[HTTP://AMSTERDAM.USCONSULATE.GOV](http://amsterdam.usconsulate.gov)